

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1, 6-11, 14 and 16 are amended.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition containing ethylene silane copolymer resin having a content of silane of about 0.1 to 10 weight% and at least one silanol condensation catalyst, ~~characterised in that~~ comprising the density of the high pressure polyethylene is $>928 \text{ kg/m}^3$.
2. (Previously Presented) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition according to claim 1, wherein the density of the high pressure polyethylene is $>933 \text{ kg/m}^3$.
3. (Original) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition according to claim 2, wherein the ethylene silane copolymer resin is an ethylene-vinyltriethoxysilane copolymer, an ethylene-gamma-methacryloxytriethoxysilane copolymer, an ethylene- vinyltrimethoxysilane copolymer or an ethylene-gamma-trimethoxysilane copolymer resin, preferably an ethylene-vinyltrimethoxysilane copolymer resin.
4. (Original) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition according to claim 3, wherein the ethylene- vinyltrimethoxysilane copolymer resin further comprises high density polyethylene in an amount of $<40 \text{ weight\%}$.
5. (Original) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition according to claim 4, wherein the amount of high density polyethylene is 15-35 weight%, preferably 20-30 weight%.
6. (Currently Amended) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition according to ~~any of claims 1-5~~ claim 1, wherein the MFR₂ at 190°C/2.16 kg is 0.1-100 g/10 min, more preferably 0.5-6 g/10 min and most preferably 1-4 g/10 min.
7. (Currently Amended) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition according to ~~any of claims 1-6~~ claim 1, wherein the elongation at break is $>200\%$ as measured according to ISO 527.
8. (Currently Amended) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition according to ~~any of claims 1-7~~ claim 1, wherein the tensile strength at break is $>12.5 \text{ MPa}$ as measured according to ISO 527.

9. (Currently Amended) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition according to ~~any of claims 1-8~~ claim 1, wherein the gel content is >65 weight% as measured according to ASTM D 2765.
10. (Currently Amended) A crosslinkable high pressure polyethylene composition according to ~~any of claims 1-9~~ claim 1, wherein the polyethylene composition further comprises 0.1-2.0 weight% of a drying agent.
11. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation a crosslinkable polymer composition according to ~~any of claims 1-10 characterised in that~~ claim 1, wherein the process is a high pressure process at a pressure above 1200 bar.
12. (Original) A process according to claim 11, wherein the polymer composition is crosslinked in the presence of a silanol condensation catalyst comprising a compound of formula (I):
$$\text{ArSO}_3\text{H} \text{ (I)}$$
or a precursor thereof, Ar being a hydrocarbyl substituted aromatic group comprising at least 14 carbon atoms.
13. (Original) A process according to claim 11, wherein the polymer composition is crosslinked in the presence of a silanol condensation catalyst, preferably dibutyl-tin-dilaurate.
14. (Currently Amended) A pipe made of a crosslinkable polymer composition according to ~~any of claims 1-10~~ claim 1.
15. (Original) A pipe according to claim 14, wherein the pressure resistance at 95°C is at least 2.8 MPa, more preferably 3.6 MPa and most preferably 4.4 MPa for a failure time of at least more than 1000 hours.
16. (Currently Amended) Use of a crosslinkable polymer composition according ~~any of claims 1-10~~ claim 1 as an insulation for a cable.